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A WORTHY PROJECT.

We have before us the prospectus of a combined philanthropic and business enterprise which is fairly entitled to the attention and support of the Brazilian public. As a rule the combination of philanthropy with business investment has not been productive of good results, but in this case the object to be obtained is so worthy that even if the direct returns from the investment do not meet anticipation, the indirect returns must certainly more than meet all pecuniary outlay.

The enterprise to which we refer is known as the "Companhia Zootécnica e Agrícola do Brazil," and it has for its object the founding of practical schools of agriculture for the education and training of poor boys. The number of schools to be established at the outset is five, to be located in diverse places in order to include all the different products of Brazilian agriculture within their scope. It is proposed to receive poor boys not less than twelve years of age, the preference being given to orphans, the sons of soldiers and poor civil functionaries, foundlings and *ingenhuos*, and to give them a good education and a practical knowledge of agriculture. The course of instruction will extend over a period of five years and is designed to fit the graduates for positions as overseers or managers on the large plantations. Through the practical study and use of agricultural machinery and of the latest and best methods of cultivation, it is believed that a class of agriculturists can be produced who will supplant the existing slave overseers, from whom no improvement can be expected, and will introduce the many needed reforms which will place Brazilian agriculture on a better and more remunerative footing.

The scheme proposes that each school shall receive and educate three hundred boys gratuitously, the expenses to be met by the proceeds of the plantation connected with it. To establish these five schools it is designed to organize a joint-stock company with a capital of 1,500,000\$ which will give 300,000\$ for the establishment of each school. The annual dividends are to be paid from the net proceeds of the plantations. All gifts to the schools, whatever be their form or source, are to be converted into shares of the enterprise as endowment funds, the proceeds of which will be distributed among the most deserving students as premiums.

With the business features of the scheme we have nothing to do, beyond the simple observation that they appear to be as good and comprehensive as it is possible to make them in a combination of this character. It is evident that the originator and promotor of the enterprise, Sr. Domingos Maria Gonçalves, has somewhat over-estimated the practical results of the investment, both on the ground of harmoniously combining it with a purely philanthropic object, and of overrating the profits of the plantations connected with the schools. In this, however, we trust that our impressions are mistaken, as the objects of the scheme entitle it to every possible success.

With regard to the philanthropic and educational features of the project, we know

of nothing now before the Brazilian public with which we are more heartily in accord, and to which we can give a more cordial support. In the first place the very modesty of the project, in contrast to the multitude of showy and extravagant schemes now before the public, is a high recommendation of its sincerity and good purposes. It makes no brilliant promises, it does not even seek to catch popular approval through the much abused titles of "university" and "college." It simply offers to establish schools of practical agriculture for poor boys, not to make "doctors" and gentlemen planters of them, but to train them for the practical management, as overseers, of agricultural establishments. It proposes to take such boys for a term of years, to board and clothe them, to give them an education suited to their calling and position in life, and to train them in the use of tools and machinery, and in the modern systems of cultivation. It proposes to fit them not only for self support as agriculturists, but as field teachers in the new and improved methods of agriculture which Brazil has thus far failed to adopt. In so doing it will give occupation to very many poor boys who otherwise would grow up in idleness and crime. It will give to agriculture a higher and better standing by taking it out of the haphazard, irregular methods now employed and reducing it to a practical science. In all these purposes the projected schools should command the respect and good wishes of all, and it should also command a generous support even where there is a lack of faith in the enterprise as a financial investment.

In the practical workings of these schools, should they be eventually established, we trust that their directors will not lose sight of one very essential requisite—the practical employment of every student in manual labor. The purpose to employ freedmen for all labor purposes on the plantations is good enough in itself, but if done to the exclusion of the students from the employments of the field it will result in positive mischief. With the extinction of slavery, its companion and resultant evil—the degradation of manual labor—should also be blotted out forever. Slavery teaches that to labor with one's hands is degrading and servile; free labor teaches that it is honorable and ennobling. The establishment of these schools at this time as a sign of the coming of a new era in labor and industrial methods, should also mark the overthrow of this false and pernicious theory. The new schools should teach the honorableness and economy of manual labor in all classes and conditions of men; it should teach the error and demoralization of any such theory that one's social position depends upon the status of soil upon his hands. And while teaching these boys how to plow, and hoe, and prune, and plant, these schools should teach that the best and most permanent success in every avocation is obtained through a strict, personal supervision of all its details. The planter who spends his time gambling in the nearest town, or in the dissipations of the capital, is not only wasting his own means but he committing a crime against

society through a pernicious example. Facts like this are essential parts of the new order of things which these schools are seeking to establish, and they should not be overlooked.

CHINESE CONTRACT LABOR.

The planters' club of Leopoldina, Minas Geraes, were to have met on the 3rd inst. for the purpose of discussing and adopting measures for the acquirement of subventioned immigrant laborers, especially Chinese. The prevailing opinion, says the *Cruzeiro*, is in favor of bringing out *free* Asiatic laborers under contract, because these are best adapted to the climate and to the present system of agriculture. In this respect we beg leave to call our esteemed contemporary's attention to a few plain facts which have a very important bearing on this question, and we trust that he will place them before the Leopoldina planters before they have gone too far in this mistaken quest for labor.

In the first place, will it be possible to place *free* Chinese laborers on the plantations of Brazil? It is proposed to acquire them through contracts, in which will be included advances for ocean passage and railway transportation, fixed terms of service, fixed wages, penalties, and all the many conditions and burdens which practically destroy every semblance of freedom in the laborer and render him as hopeless a slave as the African preceding him. In every sense of the word, except that of life service, the Chinese will be slaves. In every ex-slaveholding country where they have been introduced, they have been slaves. It is impossible for any slave-holding community to employ Chinese under the contract system without making them slaves. What has been the experience in the West Indies and on the West Coast, will be intensified in Brazil. We need only recall that unjust statute of the *locação dos serviços* which was enacted for the purpose of enforcing unjust and onerous contracts with the European immigrants brought out to São Paulo and other provinces under contract but a few years ago, and which is still in full force, to prove the truth of this statement. That law reduced the German and Swiss colonists to as bitter a state of slavery as ever was imposed upon the African. It permitted the planter to interpret his own contract, to impose subsequent conditions and burdens, to *sell* the *services* of his laborers, to regulate the in-comings and out-goings of his bondsmen, to imprison them for attempted flight or evasion of the contract, and, still worse, it even permitted the punishment of the whip. These are matters of record. The chapter which relates the attempted introduction of European immigrants into Brazil under the contract system is as shameful a chapter as can be found in the whole history of the country. In view of this, what kind of treatment will be accorded the Chinese, and in what sense can they be classified as *free* laborers?

In the second place, in what sense and upon what proofs are the Chinese better adapted to this climate than many other classes and races of people? Are not the blacks, who are now here in sufficient numbers to meet every demand for labor, as

well adapted to this climate as the Chinese? Are not the thousands of native whites who literally do nothing from the beginning to the end of the year, quite as well adapted to the climate? And what special fitness for the climate is there lacking in the Portuguese and Italian laborers who are now doing the heaviest manual labor of the country? It is clear that there is now more than enough efficient labor in the country to meet its needs, and that, under just conditions, there is an inexhaustible supply of free European labor to draw upon in case of need. Practically the only condition lacking in all this is the servile element, a condition which the slave-holding planter hopes to satisfy in the acquirement of the Chinese.

In the third place, what present system of agriculture is it desired to continue through the employment of Chinese contract labor? Is it the ruined stock-raising industry of the Amazon? Is it the wasteful rubber-gathering industry? Is it the crude tobacco-growing and curing industry? Is it the neglected rice-growing industry? Or is it the self-sustaining and antiquated coffee-producing industry? Is there one single system of agriculture now in vogue here which it is desirable to perpetuate? It will be readily admitted that the continuation of all these industries, and of many others, is vitally essential, but assuredly not under any system now known. What has been long needed, and is now needed more than ever, is the invigorating influence of free labor, the development which can only arise through free institutions. The present system, for which it is said the Asiatic laborer is adapted, is that of slavery. It is the system of great proprietorships, as opposed to that of small farming—a system which bestows the profits of labor upon the few and binds the many to a grinding, hopeless servitude. It is a system which should have no place in the new world. And yet, the *Cruzeiro* and the planters of Minas are seeking the Chinese simply because they are adapted to this very system and will serve to perpetuate it.

In the fourth place—and this is a question which no Brazilian should overlook—this country has already a great excess of non-producers, which is being steadily increased by the emancipation of the slaves. The introduction of a foreign labor element to the exclusion of that now employed, will inevitably deprive the latter of all means of support and will add just so much to the non-producing and mendicant element. The government gives no support to small farming, and no one will claim that the existing industries will increase so as to give employment to all; hence there will be no occupation for the displaced laborers. Now what is it proposed to do with these people? Is the country rich enough to support them in idleness? or will it deport them as rapidly as the Chinese are introduced? It is clear that all these people must live in some one way or another. If there is no work for them, no means for self-support, then they must beg, or steal, or starve. Most men object to the latter, the government will object to the second, and the country can not afford the first. Now what are these people to do? It is a problem which the *Cruzeiro* and the Leopoldina planters will do well to consider thoughtfully and judiciously.

ACCORDING to the annual shipping and navigation returns of Great Britain, the total number of vessels entered at Liverpool from foreign ports during the year 1886 was 4,336, of 4,009,853 tons, and the number cleared 3,781, of 3,559,745 tons.

THE total export of British and Irish produce and manufactures in April amounted to a value of £18,130,000, against £19,623,360 in the same month of last year. The imports for the month were £35,232,364 in 1881 and £40,612,067 in 1886.

BRITISH AMATEUR ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The tenth meeting of the British Amateur Athletic Sports was held on the grounds of the Rio Cricket Club, Rina de Paysandú, Botofogo, on the 29th June, having been postponed from the 24th, the day announced, on account of difficulties and obstacles partly of a meteorological and partly of an official character. The new stand was not the subject of overflowing or unstinted praise, and the arrangements for lunch and refreshments called forth a general criticism not particularly favorable to the "powers that be" in the government of the affairs of the sports. The day was favorable, the ground "just a bit heavy," and the attendance the fullest the "Athletics" have had for years.

The managers and "ribbonmen" of the day were as follows:

Committee.—H. K. Brodie, Hon. Secretary; Geo. E. Cox, E. W. May, F. Pennell, J. O. Unwin. Judges.—J. Gordon, R. Norton, E. L. Weigall. Starter.—J. Peake.

Stewards.—F. Elliott, B. Freeland, H. G. Fitzhugh, A. M. Gull, W. James, O. C. James, C. P. Mackie, J. Marsden, E. Tootal, C. E. M. Taylor. Timekeepers.—J. D. Peake, C. Ball.

The sports began about midday, the exact time not being recorded through an oversight of the timekeepers who were not yet fully up to their work. When fairly in harness, however—to their credit be it said—they performed their multifarious duties most admirably, and not an interval in the programme was left unrecorded. The "ribbonmen" having cleared the field of the small boys—and a few large ones—the programme was opened with a hundred yards flat race. The contests and contestants, through the entire programme, were as follows, the winning names being distinguished by "small caps" for the first prize, and "italics" for the second prize:

100 YARDS FLAT RACE.

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| W. G. S. Baird, | J. Daly, |
| E. DE MORAES, | G. F. Bassett, |
| G. H. Duckworth, | J. D. Bushman, |
| G. Bartholdy, | J. W. Drysdale. |

Time—11 1/2 seconds.

HOP, STEEP AND JUMP.

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| J. Bartholdy, | J. H. Okell, |
| W. M. Ewbank, | A. Satterfield. |

Distance: 35 feet, 2 inches.

200 YARDS FLAT RACE—HANDICAP.

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------|---------------|----------|
| W. G. S. Baird, | 5 yards | J. Daly, | 20 yards |
| T. O. Gunton, | 10 " | R. Negreiros, | 20 " |
| A. Satterfield, | 20 " | C. Braga, | 20 " |
| A. Maxwell, | 20 " | | |

Time: 25 1/4 seconds.

HIGH JUMP—HANDICAP.

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| R. S. Quayle, | scratch | W. G. S. Baird, | 6 inches |
| G. Bartholdy, | " | W. M. Ewbank, | 6 " |
| P. E. Swanwick, | 3 inches | H. Ewbank, | 6 " |
| D. R. Dickson, | 4 " | | |

Height: Dickson, 4 ft. 7 in.; Bartholdy, 4 ft. 10 in.

600 YARDS FLAT RACE—HANDICAP.

| | | | |
|----------------|---------|-------------------|----------|
| (Ladies prize) | | | |
| T. O. Gunton, | scratch | G. F. Bassett, | 20 yards |
| J. D. Bushman, | " | W. G. Blackburne, | 20 " |
| E. F. Ramos, | " | W. G. S. Baird, | 25 " |
| E. de Moraes, | " | D. R. Dickson, | 50 " |

Time: 86 seconds.

CHILDREN'S RACE: 80 YARDS—HANDICAP.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------|
| (Competitors under 12 years) | | | |
| G. Lyde, | 10 yards. | R. W. Cassels, | 25 yds. |
| A. de Moraes, | 10 " | S. F. Cox, | 25 " |
| F. L. Cox, | 15 " | M. Quayle, | 30 " |
| W. T. Cassels, | 20 " | R. H. Norton, | 40 " |

HURDLE RACE: 120 YARDS, 10 HURDLES—HANDICAP.

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| P. E. Swanwick, | owes 15 yards. |
| J. H. Okell, | 10 " |
| D. R. Dickson, | scratch |
| J. Daly, | " |
| W. G. S. Baird, | " |
| J. W. Drysdale, | " |
| A. T. Maxwell, | " |

Time: 21 1/3 seconds.

MARRIED MEN'S RACE: 100 YARDS—HANDICAP

Messrs. Quayle, Coy, Callander, Scully, CONDE DE HERZBERG, Robinson, Pullen, Pinto.

The winner is 70 years of age, and was allowed a handicap of 35 yards.

POLK JUMP—HANDICAP.

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| W. M. Ewbank, | H. L. Ewbank, |
| E. F. Ramos, | J. H. Okell. |

Height: 8 feet 6 inches.

440 YARDS FLAT RACE—HANDICAP.

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------|----------------|--------|
| J. D. Bushman, | scratch | W. B. Maxwell, | 30 yds |
| T. O. Gunton, | 10 yds | A. T. Maxwell, | 30 " |
| G. F. Bassett, | 15 " | J. Daly, | 30 " |
| W. G. S. Baird, | 15 " | H. Tribolet, | 30 " |

Time: 61 seconds.

BICYCLE RACE: ONE-HALF MILE.

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| J. D. Bushman, | A. Tribolet, | A. T. Maxwell. |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|

Time: 57 seconds.

HALF-MILE STEEPLE CHASE—HANDICAP.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------|
| W. G. Blackburne, | scratch | W. G. S. Baird, | 50 yds |
| P. E. Swanwick, | " | A. Satterfield, | 80 " |
| J. D. Bushman, | 30 yards. | | |

Time: 43 minutes 6 seconds.

OBSTACLE RACE.

(Names of contestants not furnished; the winner was C. E. M. Taylor.)

The "pole jump" was the first contest which excited the interest of the audience, and Ewbank (H. L.) was enthusiastically applauded when he cleared the bar gracefully. The "children's race," as usual, was an interesting event, but the "married men's race" received the most tumultuous plaudits. From the stand, the posting of the married men was viewed the utmost curiosity, and when the head of the column was taken by the Conde de Herzberg, the well-known representative of the Teutonic colony of Rio, the cheering was general. Basile the Count stood the untutored Celt, his peer in adipose tissue and age. When the signal to start was given, the noble Count sprang forward with the activity of a deer, spurred on by every drop of the blue blood inherited from a line of ancestors reaching back to the *Nichtlungen*. From the first step the Teuton had it all his own way, the squad of married men forming a rear guard to his splendid advance, while the untutored Celt fell hopelessly behind.

For the "obstacle race" there were half a dozen entries, but the committee has failed to furnish the names. Mr. Taylor successfully overcame all the obstacles, slipping through the empty barrel as easily and gracefully as a postoffice clerk gets through his onerous duties.

The prizes were then presented to the winning heroes by Mrs. Young, when the day's programme was brought to a close.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

From the Buenos Aires Herald, June 23, 1887.

—Buenos Ayres is in the midst of its winter amusements. The health of the city is fair, cold and throat difficulties being somewhat common.

—If we get where the government can find time to stoop from the contemplation of millions long enough to pay petty bills, many poor creditors will bless them thereby.

—The general post-office has been authorized to issue 1,500,000 four-cent and four million eight-cent stamps and one million four-cent post-cards. The printing is to cost \$2,596.

—The value of the wheat crop in the province of Santa Fé, has been as follows: during 1877 \$1,139,816; 1878, \$2,369,899; 1879, \$2,934,685; 1880, \$3,537,560; 1881, \$4,262,319.

—This season's killings are as follows: Buenos Ayres saladeros, 180,000; the rivers, 684,500; Montevideo, 205,500; Rio Grande, 281,000; total, 1,231,000, which shows a deficit of 232,500 as compared with last year.

—We learn that it has been determined, on high authority, to fix May 1st, 1882, as the date when specie payments shall be formally resumed. This would give a reasonable time, and with good management it can be realized.

—In Uruguay affairs are a little more quiet, the government having abandoned the proposed press censorship, and the suspended newspapers reappearing. Still, affairs are in a dangerous position, and any day may flash the news of revolt.

—Queer stories of the ironclad *General Brown* reach us from Europe, where she is laughed at by scientific naval constructors. It is said she has an impenetrable tower, from which two guns can be fired at a time, but that below the water-line she is unprotected against modern torpedoes; and then she draws 21 feet of water, so that she can come within the limits of the republic only at Bahia Blanca or further south.

—A Tucuman exchange says that during the last five months the exportation of Bolivian silver, through the Tucuman railway, has been as follows: January, 188,100 fls.; February, 225,115; March, 269,172; April, 266,845; May, 274,969; total sales, 1,224,201.

—News have arrived from Montevideo that the manager of a large mill in Rio de Janeiro had arrived with the object of purchasing wheat, to which end he is closing the charter of a vessel of 600 to 700 tons; the price paid is \$5.60, Uruguayan currency, put on board. The market remains quiet but firm.

—Congress has so far done little more than to receive projects, no important bill having got through committee into discussion. Minister Romero's proposition to refund the debt due the Provincial Bank has a majority of the committee of finance in its favor, and that will soon get into Congress.

—The government having the proceeds of the twelve million loan, and the bank having five or six millions in gold, can control the market largely, and are doing it. The bringing of gold by exchange is impossible in the present condition of trade, and it must come in coin, of which some part is "en route."

—It is stated in the papers that Sr. Don Manoel Repetto, the son of this Italian consular agent in Colonia, Uruguay, is confined to his bed from the effects of having been staked out like a wet hile by authorities of that department, for having ventured to express his dissatisfaction with the present state of politics in that enlightened country.

—There should be no more railway guarantees given by the government. It is an unwise and unsound policy. All railways should either be built by government or by private parties. If the government does anything in aid of a road, it should be direct and definite aid, and not a guarantee, in which the roads keep all it can gain and the government makes up all that is lost.

—On the 21st, the anniversary of the battle of Barracas Bridge, the provincial and defeated party intended a grand demonstration under the pretence of memorial honors to the dead, in the cathedral, in the notice for which the public were invited to do honor to those who fell in the defence of Buenos Aires and liberty, thus making the affair one of hatred and insult to the living, rather than honor and sorrow for the dead. The government at first attempted to prevent the demonstration by requesting the archbishop to forbid the service. This failing, the cathedral was closed by the papal nuncio. On the day appointed, however, there were some thousands assembled in the Plaza, and some riotous demonstrations were made, which were suppressed by the police and a small squad of soldiers, no one being seriously injured.

—The provincial government has sent to the legislature a project consolidating and refunding the internal debts of the province in gold bonds of 6 per cent., and giving the Provincial Bank said bonds in payment of the debt account of the government, a scheme which will save to the province a large sum from the annual service of these various loans, and, in connection with the proposed action of the national government in paying the Bank its debt in bonds, will make it easy for the Provincial Bank to resume specie payments. All these probabilities have furnished speculators with power to create a panic in the gold market, carrying the natural decline in gold to an excess. Of course, all ordinary business is paralyzed for the moment, as it is impossible to make prices in a currency which shows a variation of 15 per cent. in a month. Many fear a sharp reaction.

—The provincial government has just realized the Riachuelo \$1,500,000 loan through the London and River Plate Bank, with Messrs. Sterne Brothers of London, at 90 per cent., with only 2 per cent commission. The following are said to be the bases of the agreement on the loan: 1st. The firm of Sterne Brothers, of London, takes the loan at 6 per cent. interest and 3 per cent. amortization, at 90 per cent. firm. The commission is to be 2 per cent. 2nd. The provincial government is authorized to draw at whatever dates it may please for part or the whole on Messrs. Sterne Bros., as soon as the contract is signed by the provincial government and the manager of the London & River Plate Bank, 3rd. All disbursements occasioned by the emission of the bonds to be covered out of the 2 per cent commission, the government being exonerated from all other expenses in connection with the same.

THE export of breadstuffs from the United States during the month of April amounted to a total value of \$20,426,014, and for the four months ending April 30 to \$71,575,627.

THE export of provisions, tallow and dairy products from the United States during the month of April amounted to a total value of \$8,133,164, and during the four months ending April 30 to \$22,405,350.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—The São Paulo provincial assembly closed on the 23d ult.

—The province of Bahia imposes a tax of 200\$ per annum upon cotton factories.

—The police authorities of Parahyba, Planhy, have arrested two counterfeiters who were engaged in making nickel pieces of 100 and 200 reis.

—Messrs. Carlos M. de Souza and William Slater have petitioned the Amazonas provincial assembly for a subsidy of 80,000\$ for laying a cable between Pará and Manaus.

—The proprietors of the *Tribuna Liberal*, of São Paulo, have changed the name of that journal to that of *Diário da Manhã*. The style and opinions of the paper remain as before.

—Late mail advices from the Amazon report the river to have begun falling. This affords great relief to the planters and stock-raisers (?) along the river who were fearing a repetition of the great inundation of 1859.

—According to the *Gazeta de Campinas* a black was recently buried in Campinas who had reached the great age of 130 years. The facility with which some men grow old, is only exceeded by the facility with which the newspapers exaggerate it.

—Colonel Latorre has finally taken his residence at Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, the government modifying its orders to that effect. The ex-dictator announces his intention to make a little excursion through his beloved motherland sometime next spring.

—Some months since a man was condemned to one year and some months imprisonment, by a jury at Macabé, Rio de Janeiro, for the crime of homicide. The judge ordered a new trial, because of insufficiency of penalty. The second trial, recently finished, resulted in acquittal, because the *death* was not *instantaneous*. There's nothing like a jury, after all!

—On the 25th ult., a series of political meetings was initiated in the province of São Paulo by Dr. Martinho Prado, a republican candidate for the next Chamber of Deputies. The new movement is a good one, as it will necessarily lead to a better appreciation of public affairs on the part of the people, and consequently to a better form of representative government.

—A project has been introduced into the Amazonas provincial assembly appropriating the sum of 60,000\$ for the construction of a theatre. Would it not be wiser for our good lawgivers of the Amazon to reduce taxation just a little, instead of spending the public money upon such unwarrantable enterprises? A government has no more business to build a theatre than a bowling alley.

—On the 4th ult. 129 slaves were freed in the municipality of Campos, province of Rio de Janeiro, at a cost to the emancipation fund of 104,436\$700. In the first distribution of the fund (1875) the liberations numbered 145 at an expense of 90,602\$ 686—making a total number in both distributions of 274, and a total expense of 195,038\$386. The municipality contains a total population of 89,120, of which 32,120 are slaves—it having the greatest number of slaves of any municipality in the empire except that of Rio de Janeiro.

—According to an official report the customs value of the imports and exports at Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, during the last three fiscal years, were as follows:

| | FOREIGN TRADE. | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | imports | exports |
| 1877-78..... | 41,177\$065 | 571,147\$040 |
| 1878-79..... | 27,832 677 | 869,776 094 |
| 1879-80..... | 105,054 583 | 1,216,056 014 |
| | COASTING TRADE. | |
| | imports | exports |
| 1877-78..... | 2,161,899\$750 | 110,729\$220 |
| 1878-79..... | 1,932,434 066 | 206,166 525 |
| 1879-80..... | 1,774,541 762 | 106,109 310 |
| | TOTALS. | |
| | imports | exports |
| 1877-78..... | 2,203,076\$815 | 681,876\$260 |
| 1878-79..... | 1,960,266 743 | 1,075,942 619 |
| 1879-80..... | 1,879,596 445 | 1,322,165 324 |

—The punishment of a child in school at Bananal São Paulo, on the 10th inst., by a female teacher, gave rise to a great popular commotion. The punishment was inflicted with a ferule. The father of the child appealed to the police inspector, who at once called the teacher and her husband to an account. Failing to get satisfaction, he closed the school. The population then turned out and with *vivas* for the "sovereignty of the people" and "public morality" they drove the school teacher's husband out of town. The last outcome of the trouble is the publication of a pamphlet under the title of *Public indignation against the most shameful of immoralities*—viz: school punishment. According to the belief of the good people of Bananal the whipping of a refractory child is one of the greatest of immoralities, and yet we presume the slave whip is daily used without the least compunction.

—The French residents of São Paulo are organizing a benevolent society.

—The first representation of Grau's French opera company took place in São Paulo last evening.

—On the 26th ult. 81 slaves were liberated at S. Fidelis through means of the emancipation fund. The cost to the fund was 81,680\$.

—The province of Bahia imposes an annual tax of 20\$ upon every slave engaged in a mechanical occupation, whatever may be his gains.

—The Pernambuco law school has a total of 554 students registered in its various classes. The course of study extends through a term of five years.

—According to a recently-published statistical work on the province of Bahia, the city of Bahia contains a population of 128,109, of which 20,961 live in the suburbs.

—The provincial press is now explaining a new fashion in Paris social life, which is called "five o'clock tea." It is surmised that the fashion referred to is the five o'clock tea.

—The minister of agriculture has increased the capital of the *Lorena engenho central* from 400,000\$ to 500,000\$. It is always easier to increase the liabilities of the state, than to decrease them.

—An industrial exposition is to be held at Manaus, the capital of the province of Amazonas, during the month of September next. Some of the river steamship lines promise to give free transportation to the exhibitors.

—An imperial decree of the 7th ult. renews the mining privilege granted to George Scarborough Barsley on the 24th December, 1875. The locality comprised in the privilege is the municipality of Itapetininga, São Paulo.

—The *Monitor*, of Bahia, asserts that the mortality in the foundlings hospital of that city averaged 66 per cent. during the last three years. The authorities deny this, however, and state that the mortality was 63 per cent. in 1879, 60 per cent. in 1880, and 56 per cent. in 1881.

—The number of slaves thus far liberated in the province of Rio de Janeiro through the emancipation fund amounts to 1,498, and the expenditure to 1,372,486\$169. The unexpended balance is 322,971\$095. The number of voluntary liberations in the province from September, 1871, to December, 1878, were 5,885.

—The province of Matto Grosso proposes to encourage art through the payment of a subvention to Pedro Gaudie Ley to enable him to study painting in Italy. When Pedro finishes his art studies he will take up his residence in Rio de Janeiro—and then the frontiersmen will wish they had their money back again.

—A jury at Itapetininga, São Paulo, has just acquitted a man named Salvador Nunes de Oliveira from the crime of rape upon his own daughter. Oliveira offered no defence, and there was abundant proof of his criminality. The value of the jury system in Brazilian criminal procedure would afford an interesting study.

—The *Gazeta de Porto Alegre* of the 14th ult., announces the assured success of the German-Brazilian exposition to be opened in that city on the 1st October. The number of German manufacturers who had sent goods for exhibition already exceeded 250, of which 50 were of first-class establishments. The closing day for the reception of exhibits has been fixed on the 30th August.

—Telegrams from Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, state that great excitement and indignation prevails there at the decision of the council of state against the continuance of the *mesa de rendita* in that city and in favor of its removal to Rio Grande. The citizens of Pelotas have been for some time trying to get a custom house at that port, but instead of attaining that end, they lose both the custom house and the *mesa de rendita*.

—For the supply of the city of Pará with fresh beef Colonel Manoel F. Moreira, of Planhy, proposes to furnish 36,000 cattle per annum of the minimum weight of 120 kilos. This number will be supplied at the rate of 600 per month, and the shipments will be made in herds of 200 or 300 head. The maximum price of fresh beef will be 500 reis per kilo. The enterprise must be exempt from both provincial and municipal imposts, and shall be allowed a deduction of 10 per cent. in the supply in case of *secca* or any great calamity. The subsidy demanded for the service is 100,000\$ per annum. The proposal has been submitted to the president of the province.

THE experiment of growing tea in Georgia, United States, has so far resulted successfully that a yield of sixty pounds to the acre was obtained last year, and the yield will be over five hundred pounds this year. The tea is grown on low grounds and is similar to India tea. As compared with imported teas of the same grade the American tea lacks strength, but it is hoped to remedy that by employing an other process of curing, such as is employed in Japan. The cost of production varies from 16 to 20 cents per pound. A practical tea-grower from India is in charge of the experimental plantation.

RAILROAD NOTES.

—Decree 8,151, of the 25th ult., approves the new regulations and tariffs of the São Paulo railway.

—The May receipts of the "Recife ao São Francisco" railway were 99,448\$554, and the expenditures 95,793\$242.

—The minister of agriculture has informed the president of Espírito Santo that the imperial government designs to assist in the construction of a railway in that province.

—The total length of railways constructed in the United States during the year 1880 was 6,241 miles, against 4,721 miles in 1879. The total extension in actual operation now exceeds 95,000 miles.

—The March receipts of the São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro railway amounted to 112,849\$010, and the expenditures to 76,566\$192, leaving a surplus of 36,282\$818. The total receipts for the quarter ending March 31 amount to 91,837\$135.

—A company was organized at Bananal, S. Paulo, on the 21st ult., for the purpose of building a branch railway from Barra Mansa, on the Dom Pedro II line, to that place. An authorization for that work will soon be asked from the government.

—A new double-track railway is projected in the United States, between New York and Chicago, St. Louis, and Council Bluffs on the Missouri river. It is proposed to carry through freight at the rate of one-half a cent per ton per mile, and passengers at two cents per mile.

—On the 31st of May last the road-bed of the "Porto Alegre a Uruguaiana" railway was completed over an extension of 194 kilometers, the iron superstructures and small bridges over the first 62 kilometers, and the permanent way over the first 43 kilometers being nearly ready for traffic. The first two sections now under contract have a total extension of 267 kilometers. The expenditures already made for construction works, material, surveys, etc., amount to 11,000,000\$, the total cost of the line being estimated at 16,000,000\$.

—According to the last report of the Barão de Aaranana railway directors that line has now been completed as far as originally projected—from the "Macabé a Campos" line to the foot of the Serra de Santa Maria Magdalena. From the starting point on the Campos road to the terminal station of Triunfo the total distance is 41 kilometers, the last 10 of which were only opened to traffic in January last. The nominal capital of the company is 800,000\$, of which 329,800\$ is paid up. The total indebtedness of the company on the 31st of March last was 414,202\$646. The total cost of the line, which is laid with steel rails, has been 773,100\$846, and the total expenditure in interest on the company's debt 56,676\$445. The surplus earnings of the road last year amounted to 104,454\$861, and in the first quarter of the present year to 28,005\$028.

—Those who take an interest in Brazilian railway progress will be pleased to know that Signor Antonio Ferrucci, the chief engineer of the great railway now in construction on the Paraná, is a son of Michele and Caterina Ferrucci. Don Pedro de Alcantara selected him in Florence, and took him to Brazil, where he has had abundant reason to be pleased with the genius and conscientious integrity of the man.—*Engineering News*, May 7.

Our enterprising contemporary, who does not often fall into errors like the above, will permit us to make a few corrections. Signor Ferrucci is the contractors' engineer for the Paraná railway, the contractors being a French company organized in Paris for the construction of Brazilian railways. The Emperor has nothing whatever to do with the line, and nothing to say as to whom the contractors shall choose as their engineer. The railway is nowhere near the Paraná; it runs from the port of Paranaguá into the interior to Curitiba, the capital of the province of Paraná. Whether or not the Emperor selected Sig. Ferrucci in Florence to come to Brazil is a matter of little moment; he has no more to do, personally, with such matters than the President of the United States. It is customary abroad to ascribe all sorts of acts and purposes to the Emperor; it is a mistake.

THE 25th of May was the 37th anniversary of the first telegraph message, "What hath God wrought," which Professor Morse sent over his experimental line from Washington to Baltimore. Since then that forty miles of wire has increased to four hundred thousand miles in the United States alone.

DURING the year ending December 31, 1880, the number of pieces passing through the mails in the United States amounted to a total of 2,720,234,252. The whole number of letters mailed during the year was 1,053,252,876, or an average of 21 for each man, woman and child in the United States. There also passed through the mails during the year 324,556,440 postal cards, 812,032,000 newspapers, 40,148,792 magazines and other periodicals, and 21,515,832 packages of merchandise.

COTTON PICKING AND CLEANING BY MACHINERY

It seems to be settled that the old fashion of picking cotton by hand is soon to be superseded and that machinery is to be made to do the work. It is stated that Mr. Goodwin, of Arkansas, U. S., has perfected a cotton picker and cleaner which has already been practically demonstrated to be an entire success. The idea of inventing a machine for picking cotton is old; but every effort heretofore to that end has proved a failure, and even now there are not many planters who can be induced to believe that iron fingers can ever be made to take the place of human fingers in the matter of picking cotton. A correspondent of the *Memphis Appeal* says: "The writer has seen the machine work, which in his opinion is destined to revolutionize the cotton industry of the country by lessening about one-half the expense of producing or preparing the staple for market."

NEGOTIABLE SECURITIES.

The Association for the Reform and Codification of the Law of Nations, at a conference held at Berne in August of last year, adopted five resolutions respecting the international regulations of the laws on securities to bearer. These resolutions have been under the consideration of the Institute of Bankers of Great Britain, who have suggested two slight amendments, and they will come up for confirmation at a conference of the association to be held at Cologne in August next. They are as follows:

1. The expression securities to bearer shall hereinafter be understood to mean only shares, bonds, debentures, and all obligations for the payment to bearer of a sum certain, and issued in a series of definite and equal sums. It shall not embrace paper money.
2. Every issue of securities to bearer shall be entered in a public register, accessible to all persons; such entry shall contain all the conditions of the issue, especially all the particulars of mortgages and other charges bearing upon or affecting such securities.
3. A document issued as a security to bearer shall be changed by the issuer into a security to order (nominative) and *vice versa*, at the option and on the demand of the holder at his own expense. All other alterations affecting the character of the instrument are excluded.
4. The title of a *bona fide* holder of a document issued as a security to bearer shall not be affected by prior equities.
5. A *bona fide* holder of a security to bearer shall be entitled to hold the same against all persons whomsoever.

THE "DOTTEREL" WRECK.

H.M.S. *Garnet* which left Montevideo for Punta Arenas to obtain information respecting the loss of the *Dotterel*, arrived at her destination on the 16th ult. On the following day the divers were sent down to examine the wreck of the *Dotterel*. They found her sunk in nine fathoms of water, her bows being towards the west and her stern towards the east, but with an open space of about 20 metres between the two. It is believed that owing to the explosion the ship was broken in two, the stern separating from the body of the vessel, all the part of which occupied by the engines is completely knocked to pieces. The base upon which the boilers rested, appears still to occupy its proper position, but of the boilers themselves there is not a trace remaining. The whole stern part, from the mizzen mast backwards, is intact. On either side of the stern are boats, well secured on their davits, and hanging from the stern is the captain's gig, in a perfect state of preservation. A great many corpses are scattered over the deck, not all of which are complete, and some being only fragments of bodies. Up to the present about fifty have been seen, but the divers have not yet been able to inspect the staterooms, where it is supposed there will be some more. The hull of the *Dotterel* was almost covered with small fish of different kinds. It is intended to take up the bodies and have them decently buried as soon as the coffins are ready on shore. It is now believed that the occasion of the explosion was the bursting of the boiler, but how that could have reached the magazine is still a mystery, and is likely to remain so, those who might have explained it being the first victims. It is said that as soon as the guns, &c. are taken up, the captain of the *Garnet* intends blowing up the hull with dynamite, so as to leave the harbor clear. This will keep the *Garnet* two or three months.

Buenos Aires Herald, June 23—

By a census office report it appears that there were 962 daily journals published in the United States during the census year, with an aggregate daily circulation of 3,581,187, and that the people of the United States pay out annually the sum of \$26,250,100 for their daily newspapers.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, JULY 5TH, 1881.

A TELEGRAM from Paris to the *Journal do Commercio* on the 3rd inst. announces the attempted assassination of the President of the United States, James A. Garfield. The attempt was so far successful that the President was seriously wounded by a pistol shot through the kidneys, from which serious results may be expected. The telegram states that the motive for the deed was private revenge. The assassin was captured. The news will be everywhere received with feelings of the deepest regret, the more so as the high character and ability of President Garfield, and the questionable fitness of his successor, render his continuance in office a matter of great importance. In his private and political life President Garfield has been exceptionally pure and upright—so much so that we can imagine no other cause for a private revenge than the distorted fancies of a madman. In the event of his death, the presidency will fall into the hands of Vice-President Chester A. Arthur, whose successor as Vice-President, and to the office of President also, will be the president *pro tem* of the Senate. Our readers will assuredly join with us in the wish that the news of this execrable deed are exaggerated, and that President Garfield will speedily recover from his injuries.

The new departure of the minister of agriculture with regard to the introduction of new products into the agricultural industries of the country seems to us to be somewhat ill-timed. Under ordinary circumstances such a purpose would merit general commendation, and the minister would be entitled to all the credit which could be bestowed upon him. In the present state of affairs, however, such a purpose, however well intentioned it may be, is manifestly mistaken, if not positively mischievous. Admitting all that will be claimed for the introduction of new industries and new sources of wealth into the country, it is an indisputable fact that the first duty of a government is to give adequate encouragement to those industries already established and which are more or less adapted to the climatic and industrial conditions of the country. To neglect these industries, especially when they are struggling with arbitrary and unjust burdens, for the experimental aid of new and exotic industries is clearly and unqualifiedly a gross error. However valuable the cinchona plant may be as an agricultural product, it can never reach the position which coffee, rubber, cacao, tobacco, and many other products, can be made to occupy. Were the minister to offer inducements for the cultivation of rubber, or the better preparation of tobacco, or the growing of rice, or essential

improvements in the cultivation and preparation of coffee, instead of devoting money and effort to the introduction of cinchona and teosinte, there would then be a practical gain to the whole country. Some of these industries have nearly died out, others are failing rapidly, and others are in a very backward condition. All of them are grievously burdened with local and provincial taxes and with heavy export duties. And yet, we hear of no effort to reduce these taxes, or to encourage a higher and more remunerative cultivation. Until this is done, it seems to us that the expenditure of public money upon the introduction of new industries is a grave error.

The recent resolution of the government to dissolve the present parliament, and to call a new one for the 31st of December next is not a subject for congratulation. In the absence of any issue upon which the ministry desires to test the popular will—supposing that an expression of that will could be obtained—there certainly seems to be no good reason for such a step. The present parliament has not yet completed its term, and there is no question at issue between the ministry and the chambers. Furthermore, there is no subject for legislation with which the present parliament is not just as competent to deal as any successor which will be chosen. Were the government disposed to test the popular will upon the question of the abolition of slavery then there would be good and sufficient reason for undergoing all the losses and disturbances of a general election; but there is no such purpose in view. The only subject for the consideration of the Brazilian voter is the choice of new deputies to replace the old ones. In view of the fact that this change will involve an incalculable loss to every business and every industry in the country, that it will entail an actual expenditure of large sums of money, that it will divert the attention of the government from subjects which demand immediate attention, that it will postpone many necessary reforms, and that it will excite the worst passions of the people, even to the extreme of bloodshed, for a period of several months, in view of all this, is there any adequate reason for the change? It is well known that the ministry is desirous of testing its new electoral law, but that is no reason for haste; not even for dissolution. The new law is not as perishable as it is imperfect, consequently it will keep. The step, however, has been definitely taken, and business men may console themselves with another outlook for dull times. Now that we are just in the first stages of a slight recovery in business, this new element of disturbance and loss will certainly not be viewed with favor. This, however, is the business view of the situation, a view which the politician rarely consults, and still more rarely heeds. At his pleasure we may expect depression in business until after the elections of the 31st October next.

We are glad to see that the republicans of São Paulo are introducing a new element into the political life of this country by making a public canvass of the province and discussing political questions before the people themselves. As a popular political education can only be acquired through the fullest and most public discussion of all questions relating to public legislation and administration, and as the only two means for such discussions are afforded by the press and by public meetings, it is essential that these two agencies should be constantly and judiciously employed. As yet, the newspaper press of Brazil is not a trustworthy mentor on public affairs, as, with two or three notable exceptions, they neither seek to form and lead public opinion, nor to take an independent view of the thought

and events of the day. As long as the press is subservient to official influence, or is content to be the servant of certain political leaders, or factions, just so long will it fail to meet the most vital needs of the people. In the absence of this invaluable agent in the political life of the country, the inauguration of a series of public meetings by the most prominent republican leader in the province of São Paulo, Dr. Martinho Prado, is an event of very great importance. Should these political meetings be continued, as there is every reason for believing that they will be, it is to be hoped that they will be conducted with the greatest publicity and with none of the partisan strife which has thus far disgraced Brazilian politics. The republicans of São Paulo now have the opportunity to teach the two older parties an invaluable lesson—that of toleration and respect for opposing opinions. They should teach them that the shogun and knife are the weapons of ignorant cowards, and are fatal to all honest representative government. They should teach them that all political questions have more than one side, and that the best results can only be obtained through a fair examination of them all. And, above all things, they should teach them that a Chamber of Deputies unanimously in favor of the government is very far from being a flattering commentary upon the purity of elections, and is very imperfectly constituted for securing the best results in legislation. An active minority is an essential element in every representative body, and we trust the republicans of São Paulo and other provinces will see to it that such a minority is sent to the next legislature.

In conformity with the previously announced purpose of the minister of agriculture to call occasional conferences of planters and other representatives of Brazilian industries to discuss their present condition, and needs, the first meeting was held at the department of agriculture on the 27th ult. The conference was held in the interest of Brazil's greatest industry—that of coffee-growing—and was attended by several planters and exporters of that product. After a general exposition of the purpose of these conferences, and a general discussion of the present condition and needs of agriculture, the conference came to the conclusion that a great desideratum of the coffee-growing industry is the establishment of annual coffee expositions in this city, which should afterwards be transferred to the principal consuming markets. In response the minister promised that the government would aid in the establishment of such expositions and would offer premiums for the best products. The brief newspaper report of this conference does not mention that it gave the least consideration to the urgent need of aiding this industry through the abolition of export duties, through a reduction in transportation charges, through improvements in cultivation and preparation, and through a better system of labor. Expositions certainly serve many good ends, but they are not a panacea for the ills besetting this branch of Brazilian agriculture. There are drawbacks and antiquated systems in it which render its full development utterly impossible, and until these evils are eradicated all exposition efforts must necessarily be futile. Brazilian coffee needs no exposition to introduce it to the world in order that its qualities may be known; it simply needs a higher standard of preparation and a lower cost of production. Those requisites attained, the planter may confidently leave the rest to the laws of trade, for the consumer, if left to himself, will invariably seek out the best and cheapest. The only practical suggestion that we find in the published report of this conference is the promise of the minister of agricul-

ture to offer premiums for the best product. Of all the methods suggested for the encouragement of agricultural industries, this is one of the best thus far made. Were the government to withdraw 100,000\$ or 200,000\$ per annum from its mistaken appropriations for subsidies and public works, and expend it in industrial premiums, some practical benefit would undoubtedly follow the outlay. The premiums should be paid for competitive results, and not for the attainment of a certain fixed standard. In this way it is possible that the government might afford valuable aid in the cultivation and preparation of coffee, both in reducing the cost and improving the processes of the first, and in raising the average quality of the product. The objects sought should not be the increase of acreage, but the increase of yield, the use of machinery, the improvement of the labor, the reduction of cost, and the elevation of the quality. All these are essential factors in the production of coffee, and they are vital factors to the Brazilian planter at the present time, as they are the only ones through which he can successfully meet the present increasing competition of other American countries.

From the *Provincia de S. Paulo*, June 15.

LOTTERY GAMBLING.

Already discredited by the confusion of her finances, and by the dissipation of her revenues in useless, bad and premature works, Brazil is going to appear before civilized nations in a year or two as an empire of imbecile gamblers. Assuredly, we can not escape this most unhappy opinion because the projects presented in the General Assembly and in the provincial assemblies of the north and south announce an economic evil of the gravest consequences. The general and provincial laws creating lotteries for the purpose of executing public works and aiding religious establishments, brotherhoods, colleges, etc., are numerous. If to the existing ones we were to join those projected in parliament and in the assemblies of the various provinces, we would inevitably conclude that gambling had become the best recourse of this poor country.

We believe we do not err in affirming that no province, excepting Bahia perhaps, carries its preference in the employment of this means of revenue as far as S. Paulo. The collection of all the laws authorizing lotteries and of the projects now presented or under discussion for the same end, would be an useful work. This evidence of our financial incapacity, of our foolish religious preconceptions, of our false charity, would at least serve to intimidate future legislators.

How many lotteries? Those of the province summed together, they would certainly require ten years for drawing one day. Those of the whole empire summed together, in a hundred years we would have two a day. In view of this no one will say that we are not a rich people and a producer of high degree!

There is now in fashion a system of great lotteries, those which most excite covetousness for a premium and most fatally drag the poor to misery, the thoughtless to crime, and even the rich to poverty. Thus, insidiously, is the way prepared to bankruptcy.

Assuming the responsibility of an honest act, if we have authority to advise the illustrious citizen who governs this province, we would advise him to refuse his sanction to every project of law authorizing lotteries, whatever may be their application.

At a meeting of the Spanish Abolitionist Society, held at Madrid, a proposal of a petition to the government for the immediate abolition of slavery in the Spanish colonies, and the prohibition of the punishment of whipping and of putting the negroes in iron collars, was approved.

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